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October 2000

Announcements: Fall 2000

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Announcements

2000 National Disaster Medical System Conference

The National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) will hold its annual conference at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas, Texas, April 21–25, 2001. The 2001 NDMS Conference is designed to promote interaction between local, state, and federal public health practitioners and policy makers. The conference targets practitioners from the fields of clinical medicine; public health; emergency medical services; mental health; veterinary medicine; law enforcement; fire service; mortuary service; disaster response; emergency management; and federal, state, and local specialized response teams. More than 75 accredited educational sessions will be held, focusing on areas such as planning, health, medicine, counter-terrorism, tactical, tools, mentoring, and communications. Additionally, pre-conference workshops will be held. For additional information, contact NDMS by calling 1-800-USA-NDMS and pressing the “star” key, or by e-mail at ndms@usa.net; or check their website at www.oep-ndms.dhhs.gov.

Management Strategies to Mitigate Drought in the Mediterranean: Monitoring, Risk Analysis and Contingency Planning

A short course, “Management Strategies to Mitigate Drought in the Mediterranean: Monitoring, Risk Analysis and Contingency Planning,” will be held in Rabat, Morocco, May 21–26, 2001. The course is jointly organized by the CIHEAM, through the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza, and the Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II of Morocco, with the cooperation of the European Commission (DG I). It will be given by international experts in drought policy and management issues in drought-prone regions. These lecturers come from national and international research centers, universities, government departments, and private companies.

The course is aimed at agronomists, livestock specialists, water managers, and policy makers responsible for drought management. The goal of the course is to provide participants with methodologies and technical tools to develop and implement a comprehensive drought preparedness plan. The specific objectives of the one-week course will be to provide participants with the training necessary to: define appropriate drought policy and planning objectives; collect, analyze, and deliver timely drought-related information; define reliable indicators of emerging drought conditions; determine those most at risk to drought; ensure timely and reliable assessments of drought severity and impacts; and establish criteria for declaring drought and triggering mitigation and response programs.

Application forms should be sent before February 28, 2001, to Dr. Tayeb Ameziane; Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II; Direction de la Formation Agronomique, P.O. Box 6202, Rabat-Instituts, Morocco (telephone: +212 37 778645; fax: +212 37 779314; e-mail: t.ameziane@iav.ac.ma). The registration fee is 300 Euros.

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Drought Network News encourages readers to submit information on current episodes of drought and its impacts; timely reports of response, mitigation, and planning actions of governments and international organizations (successes *and* failures); recent research results and new technologies that may advance the science of drought planning and management; recent publications; conference reports and news of forthcoming meetings; and editorials. If references accompany articles, please provide *full bibliographic citations*. All artwork *must* be *camera-ready*—please provide clear, sharp copies (in black/gray and white only—we are unable to reproduce color artwork) that can be photocopied/reduced without losing any detail. Correspondence should be addressed to

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